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ASU Mid-South Signs Articulation Agreement with SIU Carbondale College of Engineering

Arkansas State University Mid-South has completed an agreement with Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Department of Technology, College of Engineering recognizing ASU Mid-South's Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in General Technology. This agreement creates a pathway for Mid-South General Technology AAS graduates to be considered for admission into SIU's Bachelor of Science (BS) in Industrial Management and Applied Engineering program.

Under the agreement, all graduates of ASU Mid-South with an AAS degree in General Technology, and meeting SIU Carbondale admission requirements, will be considered for admission into SIU Carbondale's College of Engineering based upon the Department's enrollment criteria and space availability. ASU Mid-South graduates must have earned a minimum of 61 semester hours transferable to SIU Carbondale, maintained a minimum 2.0 grade point average and completed all applicable coursework outlined as required of the AAS in General Technology.

One significance of this agreement is that it allows employees who are currently pursuing careers in Quality Engineering or Manufacturing Engineering an efficient and cost effective pathway to an applied engineering degree. Manufacturing employees who have been identified as high potential employees are often encouraged to pursue a four-year degree to qualify them for enhanced roles in their organization. Sometimes they just need to get an engineering degree to qualify for upward mobility. Because ASU Mid-South, as a community college, can conduct prior learning assessment for work-based learning, some students can receive up to 30 college credits toward their AAS. This would allow those students to fast track their education and cut as much as a year off their pursuit of a 4-year BS degree.

Another aspect of the agreement is that it allows ASU Mid-South faculty and instructors to hold broader conversations with students about the many facets of engineering itself. If a student is interested in mechanical or chemical engineering, then they would be encouraged to pursue those types of engineering through a math or chemistry course structure, whereas a quality engineering or manufacturing engineering goal would be pursued through an applied technology course structure.

"I am so proud that our programs articulate to an Applied Engineering Degree," said Gary Giordano, Lead Faculty for Machining Technology. "It is important for parents and students to know that an educational pathway to an engineering degree exists here at ASU-Mid-South."

"We know a traditional degree path isn't for every student," added Dr. Cliff Jones, Senior Vice-Chancellor for Learning & Instruction at ASU Mid-South. "Community college offers students the option to choose a degree plan on the basis of their interests, strengths, future plans and their career demands. Engineering degrees have increased in their importance in society due to the focus in STEM education. Having this agreement in place with SIU certainly allows more flexible options to ASU Mid-South students, and gives them greater opportunity to be an advocate of their career and to shape their future."

About Arkansas State University Mid-South

Arkansas State University Mid-South is a public two-year institution of higher education with an open-door admission policy, serving Crittenden County, Arkansas, and the surrounding areas with a comprehensive educational program. The College is committed to economic development in the Arkansas Delta through the provision of quality, affordable, and convenient learning opportunities and services consistent with identified student, community, and regional needs.

To meet these needs, the College provides quality academic and support programs, personnel, technology, administrative services, and facilities necessary to respond in a timely and effective manner.

For more information about ASU Mid-South, visit https://www.asumidsouth.edu.

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